wherein said effective amount is a daily dose of a selenium composition containing about 0.025 to 1 mg/kg of atomic selenium.

--24. The method according to claim 23, wherein said patient is treated for a severe systemic inflammatory response selected from the group consisting of peritonitis, pneumopathies, meningitis and bacterial septicemias in a septic shock state.

--25. The method according to claim 23, wherein the does per kg in animals is modulated according to a species 50% lethal dose (LD 50) in comparison with humans.

--26. The method according to claim 23, wherein said patient is treated for a severe systemic inflammatory response selected from the group consisting of bacterial infections, parasitic infections, fungal infections, viral infections and rheumatoid polyarthtritis.

--27. The method according to claim 23, further comprising administering to said patient a subsequent treatment of an effective amount of at least one molecule containing selenium, wherein said effective amount is a daily dose of a selenium composition containing about 0.025 to 1 mg/kg of atomic selenium.

--28. The method according to claim 23, wherein said selenium is in the form of sodium selenite.

--29. The method according to claim 23, wherein several molecules containing selenium are used to modulate more precisely different compartments of said systemic inflammatory reaction.

--30. The method according to claim 23, wherein said selenium is in a form selected from the group consisting of selenite, selenate, selenocysteine, selenomethionine, selenodiglutathione, selenomethyl selenocysteine, dimethyl selenoxide, selenocystamine, selenated yeasts, synthetic chemicals containing one or more atoms of selenium and sodium selenite.

--31. The method according to claim 23, wherein said selenium is administered by a parenteral route, intraperitoneal route or oral route.

--32. The method according to claim 23, wherein said composition further comprises a non-selenium compound which inhibits an oxidative metabolism or inflammatory reaction.

--33. The method according to claim 32, wherein said associated non-selenium compound is selected from the group

consisting of vitamin E, vitamin C, a glutathione precursor, an iron chelator, a copper chelator, copper and zinc.

--34. The method according to claim 32, wherein said composition further comprises gold to inhibit an inflammatory reaction.

--35. A method for treating a patient suffering from severe systemic inflammatory response syndrome or any state corresponding to a severe acute attack of an inflammatory pathology causing an exacerbation of cytokine secretion, comprising:

administering in a first treatment to said patient an effective amount of at least one molecule containing selenium, wherein said effective amount is a daily dose of a selenium composition containing about 0.025 to 1 mg/kg of atomic selenium,

followed by further administering to said patient a subsequent treatment of an effective amount of at least one molecule containing selenium, wherein said effective amount in said second treatment is a daily dose of a selenium composition containing about 0.00625 to 0.025 mg/kg of atomic selenium.

--36. The method according to claim 35, wherein said patient is treated for a severe systemic inflammatory response selected from the group consisting of peritonitis, pneumopathies, meningitis and bacterial septicemias in a septic shock state.

--37. The method according to claim 35, wherein the does per kg in animals is modulated according to a species 50% lethal dose (LD 50) in comparison with humans.

--38. The method according to claim 35, wherein said patient is treated from a severe systemic inflammatory response selected from the group consisting of bacterial infections, parasitic infections, fungal infections, viral infections and rheumatoid polyarthtritis.

--39. The method according to claim 35, further comprising administering to said patient an additional treatment of an effective amount of at least one molecule containing selenium, wherein said effective amount is a daily does of about 0.025 to 1 mg/kg of atomic selenium is given to said patient.

--40. The method according to claim 35, wherein said first treatment is administered during a time period between a first day to fourth day of treatment, and said subsequent treatment is administered 1 to 20 days after said first treatment.

--41. A composition in dosage unit form adapted for administering to a patient suffering from severe systemic inflammatory response syndrome or any state corresponding to a severe acute attack of an inflammatory pathology causing an

exacerbation of cytokine secretion, comprising, per dosage unit, an effective amount of a composition comprising at least one molecule containing selenium, wherein said effective amount is a daily dose of a selenium composition providing about 2 to 80 mg of atomic selenium.

--42. The composition according to claim 41, wherein said composition further comprises a non-selenium compound which inhibits an oxidative metabolism or inflammatory reaction.

--43. The method according to claim 42, wherein said associated non-selenium compound is selected from the group consisting of vitamin E, vitamin C, a glutathione prcursor, an iron chelator, a copper chelator, copper and zinc.--

REMARKS

This application has been amended in a manner so as to place it in condition for allowance at the time of the next Official Action.

In the outstanding Official Action, claims 1-15 were rejected for providing the "use of" selenium containing compounds. In addition, claims 16-22 were rejected as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the